

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended): An isolated polypeptide dimer comprising at least two peptides selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 247-370 of SEQ ID NO:2, amino acid residues 247-338 of SEQ ID NO:2, amino acid residues 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; and the bonded polypeptide composed of amino acid residues 247-338 and 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2 ~~consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4~~, wherein said polypeptide has a growth factor activity characterized by induction of proliferation of fibroblast cells.

2. (Currently amended): [An] A composition of isolated polypeptide dimers comprising a protein of about 35 kDa under non-reducing conditions which appears as bands I, II, and III under reducing conditions, wherein bands II and III are cleavage fragments band I, wherein [selected from the group consisting] band I consists of amino acid residues 247-370 of SEQ ID NO:2 or amino acid residues 249-370 of SEQ ID NO:2, and bands II and III consist of amino acid residues 247-338 of SEQ ID NO:2 and amino acid residues 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2 respectively, wherein the polypeptide has a growth factor activity characterized by induction of proliferation of fibroblast cells.

3 - 65. (cancelled)

66. (Currently amended): A composition of [An] isolated polypeptide dimers comprising [two] associated peptide fragments, wherein said peptide fragments are selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 247-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid residues 249-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid residues 247-338 of SEQ ID NO:2; and amino acid residues 339-370 of SEQ ID NO: wherein the composition comprises a protein of about 35 kDa under non-reducing conditions and appears as bands I, II, and III under reducing conditions, wherein bands II and III are cleavage fragments of band I, and wherein the composition has a growth factor activity characterized by induction of proliferation of fibroblast cells.

67. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

68. (Previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 66 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

69. (New): An isolated polypeptide comprising at least two peptides selected from the group consisting of: amino acid residues 247-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid residues 247-338 of SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid residues 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; and the peptide composed of amino acid residues 247-338 bonded to 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide has a growth factor activity characterized by induction of proliferation of fibroblast cells.

70. (New): An isolated polypeptide dimer comprising at least two peptides fragments of the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2, , wherein one peptide is selected from the group of peptides that have apparent molecular weights of 16kDa and 5-6 kDa under reducing conditions, and the second peptide has an apparent molecular weight of 22-25kDa under reducing conditions, wherein the polypeptide dimer has growth-promoting activity.

71. (New): The composition of claims 1, 2, 66, 69 or 70 wherein a V5 or His 6 tag, or both, is attached at amino acid residue 370 on one of the fragments selected from the group consisting of amino acid residues 247-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; amino acid residues 249-370 of SEQ ID NO:2; and amino acid residues 339-370 of SEQ ID NO:2.